

INL News Release
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Top high school teams to compete in INL Scholastic Tournament

Twenty Idaho high school teams will descend on Idaho Falls this week to compete in the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) Scholastic Tournament championship and vie for a trip to the U.S. Department of Energy's National Science Bowl.

Six teams will compete in the small- and medium-school categories and eight will compete in the large-school division. The competition will take place March 21 at the ISU/UI University Place campus in Idaho Falls, just off Science Center Drive. Play gets under way at 9 a.m. for small and medium schools and at noon for large schools. All rounds will be held at the Center for Higher Education (CHE) building.

The winners in each division will enter a playoff round to determine which two will compete in the National Science Bowl, which begins April 26 in Washington, D.C.

The National Science Bowl is an academic competition that tests students' knowledge of math and science. High school and middle school students are quizzed in a fast-paced question-and-answer format similar to Jeopardy. The Department of Energy launched the competition in 1991 to encourage high school students to excel in science and math and to pursue careers in those fields.

Teams participated in regional competition before moving on to the championship rounds.

•Pocatello High School, Blackfoot High School, Bonneville High School, Shelley High School, Centennial High School, Borah High School, Kuna High School, and Treasure Valley Math and Science Center will compete in the large-school division.

•Marsh Valley High School, Ririe High School, South Fremont High School, Cole Valley Christian School, Kimberly High School and New Plymouth High School will compete in the medium-school division.

•Challis High School, Butte County High School, Mackay High School, Riverstone International School, Council High School and Hansen High School will compete in the small-school division.

This is the 22nd year INL has sponsored the Jeopardy-style tournament in which teams of high school students buzz in to answer math- and science-related questions.

INL is one of the DOE's 10 multiprogram national laboratories. The laboratory performs work in each of the strategic goal areas of DOE: energy, national security, science and environment. INL is the nation's leading center for nuclear energy research and development.

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